

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## GYPSUM IN DECEMBER 2005

Producers mined 1.82 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in December 2005 (table 1). Output was 17% more than that of November 2005 and 23% more than that of December 2004. Synthetic gypsum production was 770,000 metric tons (t) in December 2005 (table 1), which was 4% less than that of November 2005, and about the same as that of December 2004. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January through November 2005 synthetic gypsum accounted for 8.64 Mt, or about 24%, of the 35.7-Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 897,000 t (table 2), 17% more than that of November 2005 and 33% more than that of December 2004.

Output of calcined gypsum for December (table 1) was 1.95 Mt, 4% less than that of November 2005 and 6% more than that of December 2004. Sales of board products were about 3.0 billion square feet (279 million square meters), about the same

as that of November 2005 and 5% more than that of December 2004.

U.S. Government import and export data for December 2005 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in November 2005 were 863,000 t (table 3), 18% more than that of October 2005 and 6% less than that of November 2004. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for November 2005 were 74,000 t, equivalent to 89 million square feet (8.2 million square meters). These imports were about the same as that of October 2005 and 57% more than that of November 2004. Wallboard exports to 28 countries and territories in November 2005 were 8,500 t, equivalent to 10.2 million square feet (946,000 square meters). These exports were about 20% more than that of October 2005 and 15% more than that of November 2004.

All percentages in this report were computed based on unrounded data.

TABLE 1  
GYPSUM SUPPLY<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	2005			2004
	December	November	January-December	January-December
Crude:				
Mined <sup>3</sup>	1,820,000	1,550,000	18,800,000	16,900,000
Imported <sup>4</sup>	NA	863,000	NA	10,100,000
Synthetic gypsum <sup>5</sup>	770,000	798,000	9,410,000	8,660,000
Total supply	NA	3,210,000	NA	35,600,000
Crude, exported <sup>4</sup>	NA	7,730	NA	147,000
Consumption	NA	3,200,000	NA	35,500,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,950,000	2,040,000	24,500,000	21,400,000
Imported <sup>6</sup>	NA	845	NA	5,050
Total supply	NA	2,040,000	NA	21,400,000
Exported <sup>6</sup>	NA	17,200	NA	480,000
Consumption	NA	2,020,000	NA	20,900,000

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

<sup>4</sup>Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

<sup>5</sup>Reported production only.

<sup>6</sup>Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2  
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2005			2004
	December	November	January-December	January-December
Uncalcined: <sup>3</sup>				
Portland cement	306,000	310,000	3,780,000	4,230,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	591,000	455,000	3,550,000	2,110,000
Total	897,000	764,000	7,320,000	6,330,000
Calcined:				
Board products <sup>4</sup>	2,490,000	2,500,000	30,100,000	28,500,000
Plaster	11,000	13,100	159,000	163,000
Total	2,500,000	2,520,000	30,200,000	28,700,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) <sup>5</sup>				
Regular board	1,830,000	1,850,000	22,300,000	21,000,000
Type X board	878,000	865,000	10,600,000	10,100,000
Other	277,000	283,000	3,320,000	3,140,000
Total supply	2,980,000	3,000,000	36,200,000	34,200,000

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

<sup>4</sup>Includes weight of paper and other materials.

<sup>5</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3  
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2005			2004
	November	October	January-November	January-November
Austria	--	--	--	8
Bahrain	--	--	7	--
Canada	562,000	639,000	6,900,000	6,200,000
China	--	--	16	41,300
Costa Rica	--	--	--	53
Denmark	--	--	34	--
Dominica	--	--	2	--
Dominican Republic	7,710	--	161,000	124,000
France	--	--	52	15
Germany	22	18	142	1,800
Italy	--	--	1	26,900
Jamaica	--	--	64,600	19,200
Japan	--	--	--	3
Jordan	10	--	10	--
Mexico	233,000	157,000	2,280,000	2,040,000
Netherlands	--	--	--	3
Peru	--	--	80	11
Spain	60,000	51,300	736,000	728,000
Sweden	--	40	80	--
United Kingdom	--	--	1	21
Total	863,000	848,000	10,100,000	9,180,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4  
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption <sup>3</sup>	Production <sup>4</sup>	Imports <sup>5</sup>	Exports <sup>5</sup>
2004:				
December	2,420	1,480	958	14
January-December	26,900	16,900	10,100	149
2005:				
January	2,220	1,460	770	14
February	2,190	1,460	755	17
March	2,400	1,470	964	27
April	2,320	1,420	909	12
May	2,800	1,820	994	11
June	2,580	1,620	972	10
July	2,500	1,590	923	9
August	2,550	1,630	926	12
September	2,890	1,680	1,230	18
October	2,550	1,720	848	14
November	2,400	1,550	863	17
December	NA	1,820	NA	NA

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes synthetic gypsum.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>3</sup>Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

<sup>4</sup>Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

<sup>5</sup>Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5  
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand square feet)<sup>3</sup>

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2005:											
December:											
Veneer base	22,100	2,080	7,340	828	8,410	21	89	41	1,360	138	42,400
Sheathing	1,790	5,470	5,980	6,800	16,000	3,240	11,500	7,100	10,100	1,850	69,800
Regular gypsum board	39,900	141,000	203,000	111,000	536,000	137,000	244,000	187,000	196,000	33,900	1,830,000
Type X gypsum board	27,700	81,600	120,000	64,700	148,000	33,500	99,000	115,000	181,000	7,020	878,000
Predecorated board	253	747	991	470	1,440	386	962	320	521	57	6,150
5/16 Mobile home board	--	1,160	3,350	--	11,400	16,800	8,160	211	414	--	41,500
Water/moisture resistant board	4,990	20,400	13,300	6,440	26,700	5,170	11,400	9,680	15,600	3,500	117,000
Total	96,700	253,000	354,000	190,000	748,000	196,000	375,000	319,000	405,000	46,400	2,980,000
January- December:											
Veneer base	301,000	27,700	88,900	9,550	108,000	379	623	3,220	16,400	574	556,000
Sheathing	18,500	54,100	63,500	72,400	204,000	36,200	143,000	77,400	110,000	15,900	795,000
Regular gypsum board	499,000	1,740,000	2,620,000	1,370,000	6,570,000	1,570,000	2,750,000	2,250,000	2,510,000	393,000	22,300,000
Type X gypsum board	324,000	1,030,000	1,490,000	797,000	1,770,000	380,000	1,090,000	1,350,000	2,270,000	84,500	10,600,000
Predecorated board	3,610	7,700	11,100	5,560	16,100	4,640	10,900	4,510	7,500	605	72,200
5/16 Mobile home board	--	10,600	58,700	260	127,000	161,000	82,500	2,000	7,500	155	449,000
Water/moisture resistant board	62,800	244,000	173,000	74,800	335,000	59,200	130,000	121,000	195,000	47,600	1,440,000
Total	1,210,000	3,110,000	4,500,000	2,330,000	9,130,000	2,210,000	4,210,000	3,800,000	5,110,000	542,000	36,200,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

<sup>3</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.